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MECHANISMS AND PROCESSES FOR CONVERSION OF  
SMALLER BORANES TO LARGER BORANES  
OR BORANE FRAGMENTS

FINAL REPORT

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AND

GOJI KODAMA



OCTOBER 1, 1980

U. S. ARMY RESEARCH OFFICE

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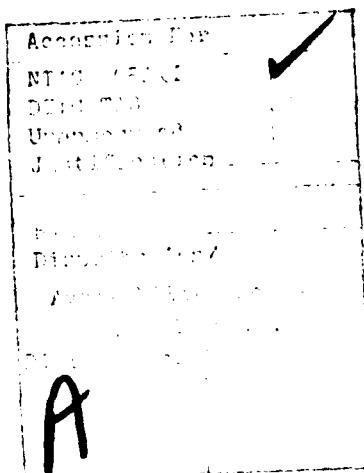
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20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) Successful isolation and characterization of Me <sub>2</sub> NB <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> revealed an aspect of the base catalysis of borane condensation, and triggered the discovery of new hydro class compounds: B <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> (2PMe <sub>2</sub> ) and B <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> (3PMe <sub>2</sub> ). Formation of a new class (klado) of compound B <sub>5</sub> H <sub>10</sub> (4PMe <sub>2</sub> ) was confirmed also. These higher class compounds are promising reagents for borane expansion. A triborane cation, [B <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> (PMe <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> , was prepared from B <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> (2PMe <sub>2</sub> ). The diborane(4) adduct can be used as a reagent for borane expansion. An attempted conversion of B <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> to B <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> is described.		

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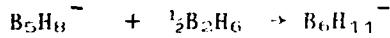
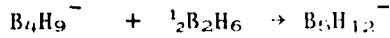


## I. Statement of the Problem

Stock's early syntheses of boron hydrides involved the reaction of a rather poorly defined magnesium boride with aqueous phosphoric acid.<sup>1</sup> Miserable yields of a hydride mixture containing large percentages of higher hydrides were obtained. All subsequent procedures, based largely on the work of Schlesinger, Brown, Burg and their coworkers<sup>2,3</sup> as well as some commercial programs<sup>4</sup>, gave B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> as sole initial product. Higher boranes (particularly those needed for the synthesis of carboranes) are currently made from diborane by thermolysis. Through proper selection of reaction conditions and equipment B<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>, B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>, or B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub> can be prepared in fair to good yields<sup>5</sup>, but the processes are very difficult and expensive commercial operations. Three other rather generalized processes for converting B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> to higher hydrides have been of interest in recent years. The first of these, studied recently by Hill and Johnson<sup>6</sup>, builds on earlier work of Hough, Marshall, Hunt, Hefferan, Adams and Makhlouf<sup>7</sup> of Callery Chemical Co. The process involves the pyrolysis of [R<sub>n</sub>N]BH<sub>6</sub> to yield [R<sub>n</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>. This is followed by the opening of the B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub><sup>-2</sup> cage with HCl in liquid (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S to give B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>[S(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. From the latter diethylsulfide adduct, carboranes can be obtained. Yields are marginal.

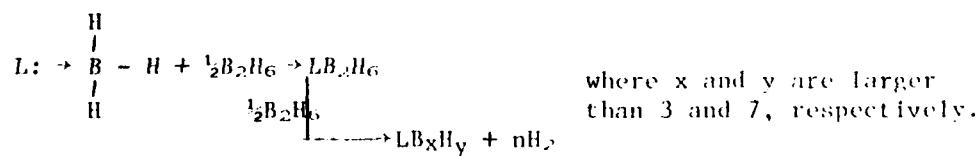
A second process involves the reaction of NaBH<sub>4</sub> with B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>. Following the early work of Hough and Edwards<sup>8</sup> on the reactions of B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> with sodium amalgam to give NaBH<sub>4</sub> and NaBH<sub>10</sub>, Gaines showed clearly that B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> reacts directly with NaBH<sub>4</sub> to give NaB<sub>2</sub>H<sub>7</sub> and NaBH<sub>10</sub>.<sup>9</sup> Muettteries carried the process further<sup>10</sup> and obtained NaB<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub> from NaBH<sub>4</sub> and B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> under different conditions. This general process has been developed beautifully in a fundamental sense by Shore and his students who have been able to build up large borane anions in a

stepwise fashion by adding a borane group (Lewis acid) to a B-B bond of selected boron hydride anions.<sup>11</sup> Reactions such as those shown were carried out.



Addition of a proton to the anion generated a neutral borane containing one boron more than the starting material. In some cases H<sub>2</sub> was lost. A process developed in recent years by Dunks and Ordonez<sup>12</sup> at Union Carbide also seems to rely on the general reaction between NaBH<sub>4</sub> and B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>.<sup>13</sup>

The last process of interest might be considered as a generalized form of the preceding reaction in which Lewis bases other than the hydride anion are added to BH<sub>3</sub>; the borane addition compound thus generated is then allowed to react with diborane. The generalized equation is:



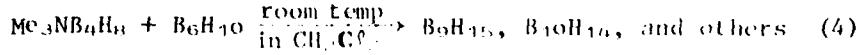
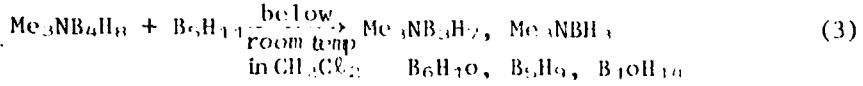
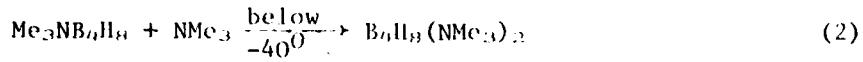
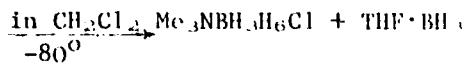
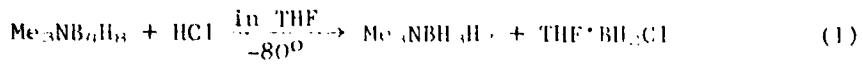
Some years ago Muettterties reported<sup>10</sup> that the reaction of (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S with B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> at 70°C gives (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S·B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>13</sub>; a number of other conversions have also been reported; still the systematics of the reaction between diborane and Lewis base adducts of the boranes are not now well defined. The study performed under the contract focused on the reactions of the base adducts of borane fragments with another reagent. The study has the ultimate goal of delineating the specific reactions by which conversion of one borane to another occurs in the presence of a base catalyst.

## II. Summary of the Results

### A. Cleavage Processes and Base Catalysis of Borane Condensation.

Many years ago it was shown in this laboratory that  $B_3H_6$  undergoes unsymmetrical cleavage of the double bridge bond of diborane to give the ionic product  $[H_2B(NH_3)_2][BH_6]$ .<sup>14</sup> Similarly  $B_6H_{10}$  gives  $[H_2B(NH_3)_2][B_4H_6]$  by an unsymmetrical cleavage,<sup>15</sup> more recently it was shown in this laboratory that  $B_5H_{11}$  gives  $[H_2B(NH_3)_2][B_4H_8]$ ,<sup>16</sup> and that  $B_6H_6$  gives  $[H_2B(NH_3)_2][B_5H_6]$ .<sup>17</sup> Other amines such as  $N(CH_3)_3$  were shown to give symmetrical cleavage of the double bridge. Species such as  $H_3BNR_3$  and  $H_2B_3NR_3$  were isolated from  $B_6H_{10}$  as a result of a symmetrical cleavage process.<sup>18</sup> An application of symmetrical cleavage arguments to  $B_5H_{11}$  and  $N(CH_3)_3$  suggests that the products should be  $(CH_3)_3NBH_3$  and  $(CH_3)_3NB_4H_8$ , but a number of studies in several laboratories, including this one, failed to verify the prediction. At that time we proposed that the compound  $(CH_3)_3NB_4H_8$  is unstable to attack by additional  $(CH_3)_3N$  thus the products isolated represented a complex mixture of secondary products. In a recent ARO supported study in this laboratory, it was possible to prepare  $(CH_3)_3NB_4H_8$  as a pure substance.<sup>19</sup> Work with pure  $(CH_3)_3NB_4H_8$  showed unequivocally that the compound is not attacked destructively by  $(CH_3)_3N$ , but that it is attacked readily by acids such as HCl. Further, as predicted by Parry and Edwards<sup>20</sup> and subsequently verified by Shore,<sup>21</sup>  $B_5H_{11}$  is a protic acid. Thus reaction procedures which avoid excess  $B_5H_{11}$  at all times in reaction with  $(CH_3)_3N$  do give  $(CH_3)_3NBH_3$  and  $(CH_3)_3NB_4H_8$  as expected.

The reactions of  $Me_3NB_4H_8$  have been examined in some detail since they provide considerable insight into the cage expansion processes. Much of the pertinent chemistry can be summarized by the following equations:



Equation 1, illustrates the reaction of  $\text{Me}_3\text{NB}_4\text{H}_8$  with a protic acid and demonstrates very clearly that the solvent is important in determining the course of the reaction. Reaction 2, indicates that  $\text{Me}_3\text{NB}_4\text{H}_8$  behaves as an acid. The integrity of the  $\text{B}_6$  unit is retained in this reaction and the bis adduct dissociates back to  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_8\cdot\text{NMe}_3$  and  $\text{NMe}_3$  at room temperature. Reaction 3, like equation 1, can be interpreted as the interaction of  $\text{Me}_3\text{NB}_4\text{H}_8$  with a protic acid; since, as noted earlier,  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{11}$  is a proton donor. The boron framework expands as a result of this process. These observations explain earlier difficulties in the study of the  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{11}$  cleavage reaction with  $\text{NMe}_3$ . It also offers insight into earlier observations of Burg who reported in 1962<sup>11</sup> that hexamethylenetetramine and some other Lewis bases act catalytically in the decomposition of  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$  to produce higher boron hydrides including  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_9$ ,  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_8$ , and  $\text{B}_{10}\text{H}_{10}$ . The hexamethylenetetramine-tetraborane(8) compound,  $(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{N}_4\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$ , has now been characterized<sup>12</sup>. In this study and its chemistry is very similar to that of  $\text{Me}_3\text{NB}_4\text{H}_8$ .

Reaction 4 above, like reaction 3, shows an intermediate hydride  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$  acting as a proton donor. Alternatively, reaction 4 above may be interpreted as a result of the acid behavior of  $\text{Me}_3\text{NB}_4\text{H}_8$  toward the peripheral B-B bond of  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$ . An intermediate thus produced,  $\text{Me}_3\text{NB}_4\text{H}_8\cdot\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$ , would split out  $\text{Me}_3\text{NBH}_3$  to give  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$ . It is pertinent to note that both  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{10}$  and  $\text{B}_{10}\text{H}_{10}$

appear as significant products. Further study of these systems is needed, particularly since  $B_6H_{10}$  is produced in considerable amounts in the reaction between  $B_2H_{11}$  and  $Me_3NB_4H_8$  and would be available for further reaction with  $Me_3NB_6H_8$  in the system to give  $B_{10}H_{16}$ .

### B. The Hypho Series of Boranes and Borane Condensation Reactions.

#### 1. The Classification Scheme.

Formulas,<sup>20</sup> geometry and framework electrons,<sup>21-25</sup> have served as the basis for the classification of boron hydrides. The parent  $B_nH_n$ <sup>+</sup> family is called the c<sub>1</sub>oso series. According to electron counting rules of Rudolph and Wade<sup>24,25</sup> this family has  $2n + 2$  boron framework electrons. The nido series, corresponding to the parent  $B_nH_{n+2}$  series, has  $2n + 4$  framework electrons. The arachno series corresponding to the parent  $B_nH_{n+6}$  series has  $2n + 6$  framework electrons. Members of a relatively new hypho series with  $2n + 8$  framework electrons have been characterized by Shore<sup>27,28</sup> who first reported the structures of  $B_5H_9 \cdot 2PMe_3$  and  $B_6H_{10} \cdot 2PMe_3$ , by Wallbridge<sup>29</sup>, ( $B_6H_9 \cdot 2P\phi_3$ ,  $B_6H_{10} \cdot P\phi_3$ ), and new members were newly prepared<sup>30,31</sup> in this laboratory ( $B_6H_9 \cdot 2PMe_3$ ,  $B_2H_5 \cdot 3PMe_3$ ). A sizable number of new hypho class compounds as well as a few members of a still higher unnamed series with  $2n + 10$  framework electrons have been characterized in the study which is just being completed in this laboratory.

The hypho and higher class compounds are of interest in this study since a species with more skeletal electrons should be more sensitive to acids and to borane acid attack. Specifically an increase in the number of framework electrons increases the number of B-B two center bonds and should thus increase the number of sites which can react with borane acids, usually through an insertion process.

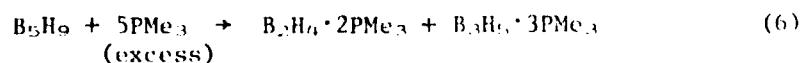
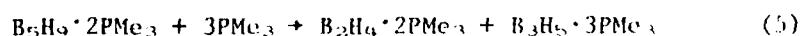
## 2. Hypho Class Compounds of $B_3H_6$ .

The reaction of excess  $Me_3N$  with  $Me_3NB_6H_6$  gives the hypho class  $(Me_3N)_2B_6H_6$  which can be isolated below  $-40^{\circ}C$ . Ammonia, monomethylamine, and dimethylamine also add to  $Me_3NB_6H_6$  to give compounds of general formula  $B_6H_6 \cdot NMe_3 \cdot \text{Amine}$ , which have been characterized at low temperatures.<sup>19, 31</sup>

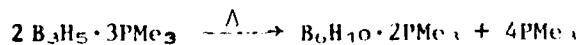
Reaction of  $B_5H_{11}$  with  $PMc_3$  gives a hypho compound  $(Me_3P)_2B_6H_6$ , which is stable enough at room temperature to permit purification by sublimation.<sup>30</sup> In sharp contrast to the case with  $Me_3N$ , the 1:1 phosphine adduct  $Me_3PB_6H_6$  could never be isolated; only the 2:1 hypho class compound,  $(Me_3P)_2B_6H_6$  could be obtained. Two other mixed hypho class  $B_6H_6$  compounds were also obtained<sup>31</sup> by adding one mole of  $NMe_3$  or  $PMc_3$  to  $B_6H_6(CO)$ .

## 3. Hypho and Arachno compounds derived from $B_6H_6$ .

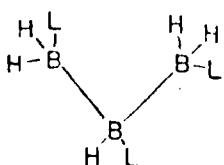
As a result of the work of Shore and his students, it was known that the reaction of  $B_6H_6$  with  $PMc_3$  gives the hypho compound  $B_6H_6 \cdot 2PMc_3$ .<sup>22</sup> We have explored the reaction of the hypho compound  $B_6H_6 \cdot 2PMc_3$  with excess  $PMc_3$ . While it was believed earlier that the reaction of  $B_6H_6$  with excess  $PMc_3$  ultimately gave  $Me_3PBH_3$ , studies completed in this laboratory demonstrate conclusively that the reaction of  $B_6H_6 \cdot 2PMc_3$  or of  $B_6H_6$  with excess  $PMc_3$  gives rise to reactions which can be described by the following equations:<sup>31</sup>



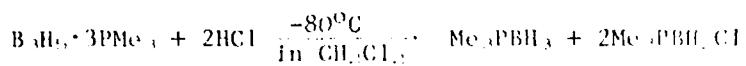
The  $B_2H_6 \cdot 2PMc_3$  is an arachno species while the  $B_3H_5 \cdot 3PMc_3$  is a new hypho compound, the only  $B_3$  hypho compound known. The arachno compound,  $B_2H_6 \cdot 2PMc_3$ , can be sublimed from the reaction mixture. Simultaneously the  $B_3H_5 \cdot 3PMc_3$  converts to a known hypho compound,  $B_6H_{10} \cdot 2PMc_3$ :<sup>32</sup>



The compound is identical to the comparable species generated from  $B_3H_6O$  and  $2PMe_3$ . Up to this time the  $B_3H_6 \cdot 3PMe_3$  has not been isolated as a pure compound because of its decomposition during separation procedures; still, its identity in the original mixture has been unequivocally confirmed. The structure, based on NMR, is:



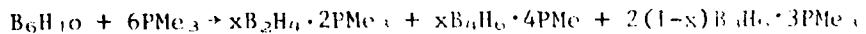
This compound reacts with HCl in accordance with the equation:



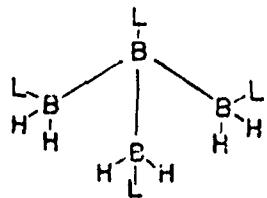
We have also explored the reactions of both 1-methylpentaborane(9) and 2-methylpentaborane(9) with excess  $PMe_3$  to see if the identity of the products obtained would provide any clue as to the mechanism of the cleavage process. In both cases the methyl group appeared on the  $B_2$  fragment rather than on the  $B_3$  fragment. The products were  $CH_3B_2H_5 \cdot 2PMe_3$  and  $B_3H_6 \cdot 3PMe_3$ . Mechanistic interpretations of these facts is found in the appropriate publication.<sup>31, 32</sup> Central to the argument is the fact that 1-methylpentaborane(9) isomerizes to the 2-methyl compound in the presence of a Lewis base.<sup>33</sup>

#### 4. Trimethyl Phosphine Adducts from $B_6H_{10}$ .

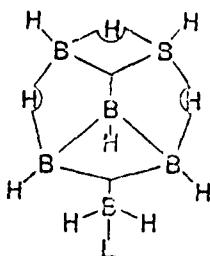
Pure  $B_6H_{10}$  reacts with excess  $PMe_3$  as indicated by the equation:



The new compound  $B_4H_6 \cdot 4PMe_3$  belongs to a new class above hypho-(kialdo)<sup>34</sup> with  $2n + 10$  framework electrons. The structure assigned on the basis of NMR is



A compound  $B_6H_{10} \cdot PMe_3$  was also isolated below  $-20^{\circ}C$ .<sup>37</sup> The structure tentatively assigned is:

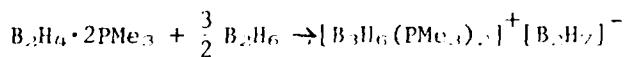


### C. The Reaction Chemistry of $B_2H_6 \cdot 2PMe_3$ .

The compound  $B_2H_6 \cdot 2PMe_3$  is the simplest borane compound with a B-B bond. It has been studied as a prototype to delineate the chemistry of the two center B-B bond. The compound is easily prepared, as noted in section B, from  $B_2H_6$  and  $PMe_3$ .<sup>31</sup>

#### 1. Formation of the Triborane Cation, $[B_3H_6(PMe_3)_2]^+$ by Unsymmetrical Cleavage of $B_3H_6$ or $B_3H_{10}$ .

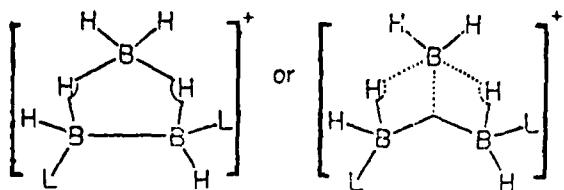
Non-symmetrical cleavage of the double bridge bond in  $B_3H_6$  gives  $H_2B^+$  and  $BH_6^-$ . The  $BH_6^-$  can add  $BH_3$  to give the  $B_3H_7^-$  anion. When  $B_2H_6 \cdot 2PMe_3$  is treated with an excess of  $B_2H_6$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  at  $-20^{\circ}C$ , a reaction occurs which can be described by the following equation:<sup>38</sup>



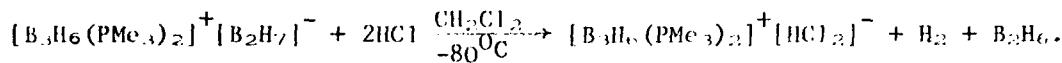
At least in a formal sense the reaction can be viewed as a non-symmetrical cleavage of the double bridge bond of  $B_3H_6$  with addition of the  $H_2B^+$  unit to the B-B two center bond.

Similarly  $B_4H_{10}$  is cleaved non-symmetrically by  $B_2H_6 \cdot 2PMe_3$  to give  $[B_3H_6(PMe_3)_2]^+ [BH_6^-]$ .<sup>39</sup> The cation is isoelectronic with the  $B_3H_7^-$  anion and

is assigned a structure similar to the  $\text{BH}_8^-$  structure.

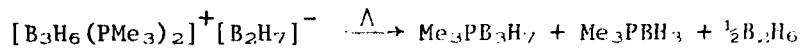


The cation, like  $\text{B}_3\text{H}_8^-$ ,<sup>39</sup> is fluxional. At  $-70^\circ\text{C}$  the motion is slow enough to observe the  $^{11}\text{B}$  and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signals of the static structure. The cation is resistant to strong acids, as the following equation illustrates:<sup>38</sup>



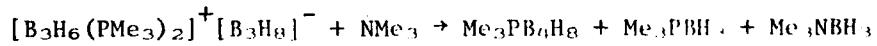
The  $\text{HBr}_2^-$  salt can be prepared in a comparable way.<sup>38</sup> Both the  $\text{HCl}_2^-$  and  $\text{HBr}_2^-$  salts and the  $\text{B}_2\text{H}_7^-$  salt decompose at room temperature but the  $\text{B}_3\text{H}_8^-$  salt is stable at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ .

The decomposition of  $[\text{B}_3\text{H}_6(\text{PMe}_3)_2]^+ [\text{B}_2\text{H}_7]^-$  on warming can be best described by the following equation:



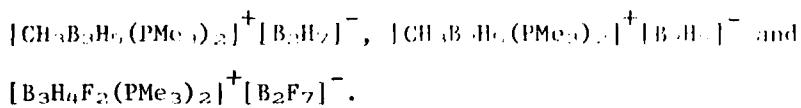
The process can be viewed as transfer of an  $\text{H}^-$  back to the cation from the anion with loss of a  $\text{PMe}_3$  from the cation to the  $\text{BH}_3$  formed.

The compound  $[\text{B}_3\text{H}_6(\text{PMe}_3)_2]^+ [\text{B}_3\text{H}_8]^-$  is sensitive to strong bases such as  $\text{NMe}_3$ . The equation is:



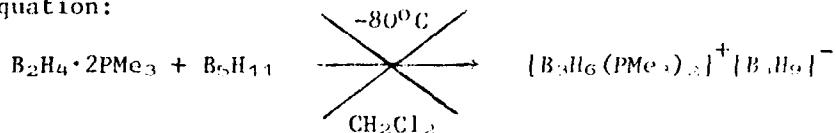
This process can be viewed as transfer of a hydride ion to the cation to generate  $\text{B}_2\text{H}_6 \cdot 2\text{PMe}_3$  and  $\text{BH}_3$ , the latter being combined with  $\text{NMe}_3$  to give  $\text{Me}_3\text{NBH}_3$ , followed by interaction of the  $\text{B}_2\text{H}_6 \cdot 2\text{PMe}_3$  with the  $\text{B}_3\text{H}_7$  fragment in the system.

Methyl and fluoro derivatives of the cation were also prepared during the past grant period. The compounds are:<sup>38,40</sup>

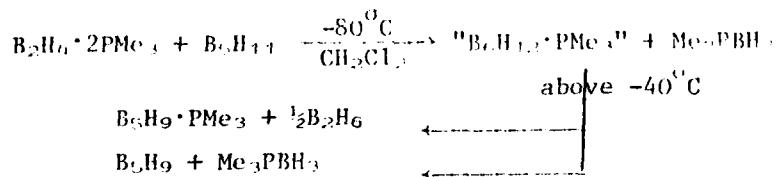


### 2. Attempted Unsymmetrical Cleavage of $\text{B}_5\text{H}_{11}$ by $\text{B}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot 2\text{PMe}_3$ .

As noted above  $\text{B}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot 2\text{PMe}_3$  will cleave both the  $\text{B}_2\text{H}_6$  and  $\text{B}_4\text{H}_{10}$  molecules unsymmetrally to give the  $[\text{B}_3\text{H}_6(\text{PMe}_3)_2]^+$  cation and the anion characteristic of unsymmetrical cleavage of that borane. Since it is known that  $\text{B}_5\text{H}_{11}$  will undergo non-symmetrical cleavage with  $\text{NH}_3$  to give the  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_9^-$  anion,<sup>16</sup> it was expected that  $\text{B}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot 2\text{PMe}_3$  should interact with  $\text{B}_5\text{H}_{11}$  as indicated by the following equation:



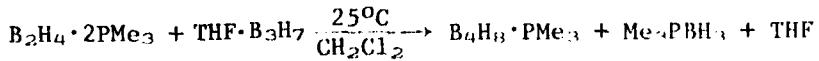
No evidence for the formation of the  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_9^-$  ion could be found. Instead, a process as defined by the following equation occurs:



The  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{12} \cdot \text{PMe}_3$  and  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_9 \cdot \text{PMe}_3$  are new compounds. Characterization of the  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_9 \cdot \text{PMe}_3$  has been completed<sup>10</sup> and that of  $\text{B}_6\text{H}_{12} \cdot \text{PMe}_3$  is being pursued.

### 3. The Reaction of $\text{B}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot 2\text{PMe}_3$ with $\text{B}_3\text{H}_7 \cdot \text{THF}$ .

The observed reaction is given by the equation:<sup>10</sup>



A borane expansion process is observed.

### D. Newly Prepared Borane Adducts.

As described in the foregoing sections a number of new types of borane compounds have been prepared and characterized in the past year. The list

includes:  $B_3H_5 \cdot 3PMes$  (hypho class),  $B_5H_6 \cdot 4PMes$  (klado class),  $B_6H_6 \cdot PMes$  (arachno class),  $B_5H_{11} \cdot OR_2$  (hypho class),  $B_6H_{10} \cdot PMes_3$  (arachno class),  $B_6H_{12} \cdot PMes_3$  (hypho class). The current situation is put into focus by examination of Table I which shows the types of known boranes and borane adducts and the new compounds added in this investigation.

Other new chloro compounds prepared include  $LB_3H_6Cl$ ,<sup>19,33,41</sup> where  $L = NMe_3$ ,  $NH_3$ ,  $CH_3NH_2$ ,  $(CH_3)_2NH$ ,  $Ph_3$ , and  $PMes_3$ . The adducts are sensitive to bases. The THF adduct could not be prepared.

Further the series  $LB_3H_7$  was prepared where  $L = Ph_3$ ,  $MePh_2$ ,  $Me_2Ph$ ,  $Me_3P$ . The chemistry of this family was contrasted with that of the series  $LBH_3$ .<sup>43,44</sup> Differences are explained by the greater acidity of  $B_3H_7$ . The fluxionality of hydrogens in the  $B_3$  framework becomes greater (appears at lower temperature) as the strength of the base increases. See also ref. 45.

TABLE I  
Molecular Lewis Base Adducts of Boranes,  $B_XH_YL_Z$

L=1 2 3 4				I=1 2 3 4				L=1 2 3 4			
$BH_3$	X			$(BH_5)$				$(BH_7)$			
$B_2H_4$	X			$B_2H_6$	X			$(B_2H_8)$			
$B_3H_5$		O		$B_3H_7$	Ø			$B_3H_9$			
$B_4H_6$		O		$B_4H_8$	Ø	Ø		$B_4H_{10}$			
$B_5H_7$				$B_5H_9$	O	X		$B_5H_{11}$	Ø		
$B_6H_8$				$B_6H_{10}$	O	X		$B_6H_{12}$	O		
$B_7H_9$				$B_7H_{11}$				$B_9H_{13}$			
$B_8H_{10}$				$B_8H_{12}$	X			$B_{10}H_{14}$			
$B_9H_{11}$				$B_9H_{13}$	X			$B_{10}H_{15}$			
$B_{10}H_{12}$	X	X		$B_{10}H_{14}$	X	X		$B_{10}H_{16}$			
$B_{11}H_{13}$				$B_{11}H_{15}$				$B_{11}H_{17}$			
$B_{12}H_{14}$				$B_{12}H_{16}$				$B_{12}H_{18}$			

X - Adducts that had been known prior to the past grant periods.

O - Adducts that were discovered during the past grant periods.

Ø - Adducts that had been known and to which new compounds were added during the past grant period.

E. The Deuteration of Triborane Adducts.

THF·B<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub> or Me<sub>3</sub>NB<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub> will react with BCl<sub>3</sub> at -80°C in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to give either THF·B<sub>3</sub>D<sub>7</sub> or Me<sub>3</sub>NB<sub>3</sub>D<sub>7</sub>.<sup>46</sup> The THF adduct can be converted to NaB<sub>3</sub>D<sub>6</sub>,<sup>47</sup> which can be converted to ND<sub>4</sub>B<sub>3</sub>D<sub>8</sub>. The latter compound has potential interest as a portable D<sub>2</sub> source.

F. Attempted Conversion of B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>9</sub> to B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>.

Earlier, during the course of halotriborane chemistry study, it was found that the treatment of B<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub><sup>-</sup> ion with BCl<sub>3</sub> resulted in the formation of B<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>.<sup>32</sup> The halogenation by BCl<sub>3</sub>, which was effective for the preparation of Me<sub>3</sub>NB<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>Cl from Me<sub>3</sub>NB<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, could not be achieved for the hydride adduct of B<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, B<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub><sup>-</sup>. The reaction appeared to have proceeded by the abstraction of H<sup>-</sup> by BCl<sub>3</sub> to give HBCl<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. The B<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub> group thus freed was thought to undergo a reaction to form B<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>:



The application of the hydride abstraction reaction to the B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub><sup>-</sup> ion was intended in hope of producing "B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>" which might dimerize to give B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>. Indeed, the treatment of Me<sub>4</sub>NB<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub> with excess BCl<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> gave B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>. The yield was judged to be fair to good on the basis of the <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra of the reaction products. The use of KB<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, instead of the Me<sub>4</sub>N salt, resulted in the formation of a new compound B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>·BCl<sub>3</sub>. The appropriate equation for the reaction is:



The <sup>11</sup>B and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the new compound indicated that the BCl<sub>3</sub> unit is inserted at the basal B-B position in the manner similar to that has been found for B<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>·BMe<sub>2</sub>.<sup>48</sup> The compound is of interest as an intermediate for the formation of higher borane species, in particular B<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>. The work is to be continued.

### III. Publications and Technical Reports.

- a. "Isolation and Characterization of Trimethylamine-Tetraborane(8)." G. Kodama and A. R. Dodds, 3rd International Meeting on Boron Chemistry, Ettal/Munch, FRG, July 1976.
- b. "Reactions of Pentaborane(11) with Methylamines." R. W. Parry and G. Kodama, 3rd International Meeting on Boron Chemistry, Ettal/Munch, FRG, July 1976.
- c. "Reactions of Trimethylamine-Triborane(7) and -Tetraborane(8) with Anhydrous Hydrogen Chloride." A. R. Dodds and G. Kodama, 172nd National Meeting, Amer. Chem. Soc., San Francisco, California, September 1976. INOR 90.
- d. "Methylamine Adducts of Trimethylamine-Tetraborane(8)." A. R. Dodds and G. Kodama, 173rd National Meeting, Amer. Chem. Soc., New Orleans, Louisiana, March 1977. INOR 48.
- e. "Reactions of Tetraborane(10) with Mono-and Dimethylamine." A. R. Dodds and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem., 1977, 16, 2900.
- f. "Deuteration of Triborane(7) Adducts with Anhydrous Denterium Chloride." Inorg. Chem., 1977, 16, 3353.
- g. "Preparation and Properties of Bis(Trimethylphosphine)-Tetraborane(8)." 33rd Northwest Regional Meeting, Amer. Chem. Soc., Seattle, Washington, June 1978.
- h. "Reactions of Hexamethylenetetramine with Boranes." H. Kondo and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem. 1979, 18, 1460.
- i. "Isolation and Characterization of Trimethylamine-Tetraborane(8)." A. R. Dodds and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem., 1979, 18, 1465.
- j. "Phosphine and Methylphosphine Adducts of Triborane(7)." V. L. Bishop and G. Kodama, 4th International Meeting on Boron Chemistry, Salt Lake City/Snowbird, Utah, July 1979. Paper No. 39.
- k. "Hypo-Tetraborane Compounds Containing Carbon Monoxide and Phosphine." G. Kodama and R. W. Parry, 4th International Meeting on Boron Chemistry, Salt Lake City/Snowbird, Utah, July 1979. Paper No. 45
- l. "Deuterated Sodium Octahydrotriborate(1-)." M. A. Nelson and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem. 1979, 18, 3302.
- m. "Bis(Trimethylphosphine) Adduct of Tetraborane(8)." M. Kameda and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem., 1979, 18, 3302.
- n. "Unsymmetrical Cleavage of Boranes by Bis(Trimethyl-phosphine)-Diborane(4). Formation of a Triboron Cation." M. Kameda and G. Kodama, J. Am. Chem. Soc.,

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- o. "Cleavage of Pentaborane(9) by Trimethylphosphine." M. Kameda and G. Kodama, 35th Northwest—5th Biennial Rocky Mountain Joint Regional Meeting, Amer. Chem. Soc., Salt Lake City, Utah, June 1980.
  - p. "A Cleavage Reaction of Pentaborane(9). Formation of a New Hypho Triborane Adduct." M. Kameda and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem., 1980, 19, 2288.
  - q. "Reactions of Trimethylphosphine Adducts of Diborane(4) with Boranes." M. Kameda and G. Kodama, 2nd Chemical Congress of the North American Continent, Las Vegas, Nevada, August, 1980. INOR 75.
  - r. "Trimethylamine-Tetraborane(8), Methylamine Adducts of triborane(7) and Related Chemistry." Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Utah, 1980.
  - s. "Formation of the 1:1 Phosphine Adducts of Hexaborane(10)." M. Kameda and G. Kodama, Inorg. Chem. In press.
  - t. "Triborane(7) Adducts of Phosphine and Methylphosphines." V. L. Bishop and G. Kodama. Submitted to Inorg. Chem.
  - u. (Manuscripts for eight other papers are in preparation and will be submitted to appropriate journals.)

IV. Participating Scientific Personnel.

**Robert W. Parry, Professor of Chemistry**

**Goji Kodama, Research Professor of Chemistry**

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**Mitsuaki Kameda, Research Fellow**

**Vicki L. Bishop, Graduate Student, Research Assistant, M.S., 1979**

**Mansel A. Nelson, Undergraduate Student, Research Assistant, B.S., 1978**

**Steve A. Snow, Graduate Student, Research Assistant**

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